

Message Text

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56

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TO AMEMBASSY BANJUL

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

UNCLAS STATE 102699

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, GA

SUBJECT: GAMBIAN NATIONAL TROUPE

REFERENCE: BANJUL 399

1. DEPARTMENT UNABLE SPONSOR COMMERCIAL OR SEMI-COMMERCIAL TOUR FOR KANUTEH SUCH AS ENVISAGED REFTEL. HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT HAS CONTACTED BLACK THEATRE ALLIANCE CONCERNING POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING SUCH TOUR. BTA IS NON-PROFIT, SERVICE ORGANIZATION FOR SOME 30 BLACK PERFORMING ARTS GROUPS WHICH ARE BASED PRINCIPALLY IN THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA. BTA HAS CONTACTS WITH COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES AROUND COUNTRY.

2. BTA DIRECTOR, HAROLD YOUNGBLOOD, APPEARED INTERESTED IN KANUTEH VISIT AND SAID THAT WHILE FUNDS PRESENTLY NOT AVAILABLE, SPONSORSHIP OF KANUTEH "NOT OUTSIDE REALM OF POSSIBILITY." IN ORDER BETTER EVALUATE FEASIBILITY OF TOUR, YOUNGBLOOD REQUESTS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TOUR BUDGET, DATES AVAILABLE, KINDS OF PERFORMANCE, LECTURE TOPICS. WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW SIZE OF ENTIRE TROUPE AND ITS TYPES

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OF PRODUCTIONS.

3. SUGGEST KANUTEH WRITE DIRECTLY TO BTA, 162 WEST 56TH

STREET, NO. 303, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10019 TO BEGIN
DIALOGUE. YOUNGBLOOD HAS PROMISED TO SEND DEPARTMENT
FURTHER INFORMATION ON BTA. COPY WILL BE POUCHED TO
POST WHEN RECEIVED. SISCO

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